(घ) क्या राज्य सरकार ने भी ऐसा कोई कार्यक्रम चलाने के लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार से सहायता मांगी है, और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो इस कार्यक्रम को कब से शुरू किए जाने की सम्भावना है?

कल्याण मंत्री (श्री बलवन्त सिंह रामूवालिया): (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(ग) आदिवासी महिलाओं की साक्षरता दर समाज के अन्य वर्गों से कम है जिसके कारण वे प्रतिकूल परिस्थिति में हैं।

(घ) जी, नहीं। ऐसा कोई भी विशेष प्रस्ताव कल्याण मंत्रालय को प्राप्त नहीं हुआ है।

(ङ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

State-wise Census of Orthopaedically Handicapped People

*520. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any State-wise Census of orthopaedically handicapped people has been conducted;

(b) if so, the figures for Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) the steps proposed to increase rehabilitation centres for orthopaedically handicapped people in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) and (b) No census of the disabled population State-wise/Union Terriotry-wise was undertaken as part of the decadal General Census. However, the sample survey conducted by the National Sample Survey Organisation in 1991 estimated that about 16.15 million people in the country as a whole were physically handicapped (orthopaedic, speech & hearing and visual).

(c) Schemes and programmes aimed at rehabilitation of the disabled population throughout the country in general, including Andhra Pradesh, are given in the Statement.

Statement

Schemes and Programmes for the rehabilitation of the disabled persons in the Country

(1) *Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for the Disabled*

Under this scheme, assistance is provided to voluntary organisations to run rehabilitation programmes for the disabled. Financial support is given upto 90% of the total project cost for recurring items like staff salary, maintenance charges, contingencies and non-recurring items like construction of building, equipment, furniture. Financial assitance is given for projects like vocational training centres, special schools, counselling centres, hostels, training centres for personnels, placement services etc.

(2) *Establishment & Development of Special Schools*

The scheme envisages assistance to the NGOs upto 90% for establishment and upgradation of Special Schools in four major disabilities — orthopaedic, hearing and speech, visual and mentally retarded. Priority under the scheme is given to setting up of schools in districts where there are no special schools at present. Both recurring and non-recurring expenditure is supported by the Ministry.

(3) *Assistance to Organisations for persons with Cerebral Palsy & Mental Retardation for Manpower Development*

under the scheme, assistance is given to NGOs upto the extent of 100% for running training courses for researchers in the area of Cerebral Palsy & Mental Retardation.

(4) *Assitance to Organisations for Rehabilitation of Leprosy Cured Persons*

Under this scheme, assistance is given upto 90% to voluntary organisations in developing programmes for rehabilitation of leprosy cured persons.

(5) *National Institutes*

In order to effectively deal with the multidimensional problems of the handicapped population, the following four National Institutes have been set up. These Institutes are apex level organisations in the field of training, vocational guidance, counselling, research, rehabilitation, development of suitable service modules. These Institutes also serve as premier documentation, and information centres in their area of disability:—

(i) National Institute for the Visually Handicapped, Dehradun.

(ii) National Institute for the Orthopaedically Handicapped, Calcutta.

(iii) Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped, Mumbai.

(iv) National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped, Secunderabad.

In addition to these the following two institutions have been set up primarily as service institutions for providing general services to the handicapped persons:—

(i) Institute for the physically Handicapped, New Delhi.

(ii) National Institute of Rehabilitation, Training and Research, Olatpur, Orissa.

(6) *Employment*

(i) Section 33 of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights & Full Participation) Act, 1995 contains a provision that the appropriate Government shall appoints in every establishment not less than 3% of persons with disability of which 1% each shall be reserved for persons suffering from:—

(a) blindness or low vision

(b) hearing impairment and

(c) locomotor disability or cerebral palsy

In the post identified for each disability. 3% reservation in Group 'C' and 'D' for handicapped persons had already been there even before the Law came into force. In pursuance of this provision, extension of 3% reservation in Group 'A' & 'B' posts under the Central Government for physically handicapped persons — 1% each for visually, hearing and orthopaedically handicapped have been notified by DOPT's Circular No. 36035/16/91-Estt. (SCT) dated 18.2.97.

(ii) 47 Special Employment Exchange and 41 Special Cells for the handicapped persons have been set up exclusively to help the handicapped persons in getting gainful employment. Besides, the Normal Employment Exchange also help the handicapped person in finding suitable employment.

(iii) Seventeen Vocational Rehabilitation Centres have been set up to assess the residual ability of the disabled, arrange their training and placed them in employment.

(iv) Self-employment is promoted through the following:—

(a) Allotment of vending stalls, kiosks and shops by some State Governments/ UTs;

(b) Loans from Nationalised Banks at concessional Rates of Interest;

(c) Preference in allotment of Public Telephone booths;

(d) Reservation in distribution of Petrol Pumps, Kerosiene Depots etc.

(7) *Scheme of Assistance to disabled for purchase/fitting of Aids/Appliances*

The main objective of the scheme is to assist needy physically handicapped persons in procuring durable, sophisticated and scientifically manufactured aids and appliances that promote their physically, social and psychological rehabilitation. The scheme is implemented through centres run by the Companies, registered under Companies Act, registered Societies, trusts or any other institutions recognised by the Ministry of Welfare. Both Governmental and non-Governmental agencies are thus engaged for the implementation of the scheme.

Under the scheme, aids and appliances upto value of Rs.3600/- are distributed to the disabled persons free of cost if their monthly income is upto Rs. 1200/- and at 50% of the cost if the income is between Rs.1201/- to Rs.2500/-.

(8) Government of India have recently enacted 'The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights & Full Participation) Act, 1995'. The Act provides prevention and early detection of disabilities, education, employment non-discrimination etc. for disabled persons including mentally handicapped persons.

(9) A National Handicapped Finance & Development Corporation has been registered on 24.1.97 under Section 25 of the Companies Act, 1956 to provide opportunities for skill development and loan assistance on easy terms to the disabled persons to set up self-employment ventures.

Coal mine deposit linked insurance scheme

3804. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the amount paid to skilled labour in the event of death while on duty out of coal mine deposit linked insurance scheme;

(b) whether the amount is sufficient in view of the high cost of living today;

(c) whether Government propose to review and enhance the amount of coal mine deposit linked insurance scheme; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) The Coal Mines Deposit Linked Insurance Scheme (CMDLIS) does not draw any distinction between skilled and unskilled workers. In the event of death of a member of CMDLIS, the legal heirs/nominee of the deceased member are entitled to receive an amount equal to the overall balance in the account of the deceased in the fund during the preceding 3 years subject to maximum of Rs. 10,000/-; provided that the average balance in the account of the deceased employees is not below the sum of Rs. 1000/- at any time during the preceding 3 years.

(b) to (d) A proposal to increase the maximum benefit from Rs. 10,000/- to 25,000/- under certain conditions has been received.

Coal linkage to Gujarat State Electricity Board

3805. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the details of parameter of quarterly allocation of coal linkage for power projects;

(b) the details of quarterly demand of and allocation to Gujarat State Electricity Board during the last three years;

(c) whether it is a fact that there has been an inadequate coal linkage between the demand and supply of coal during the last three years;

(d) if so, the remedial steps taken by Government in this regard; and

(e) the future programme for allocation of adequate coal linkage to the Gujarat State Electricity Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) to (c) The Central Electricity Authority (CEA) makes recommendations for allotment of coal for each coal based power plant on the basis of generation targets fixed for them. The recommendations made by the CEA are considered by the Standing Linkage Committee (Short-term) which allots coal for each thermal power station on quarterly basis within the overall constraints of availability of coal, transportation, unloading facilities of the power stations and timely payment for coal supplies. The linkages sanctioned and despatches to the power stations of Gujarat Electricity Board(GEB) from Coal India Limited for the last three years are as follows:—

(Figs. in '000 tonnes)
(Data provisional)

Year	Linkage	Despatch
1994-95	13,965	11,342
1995-96	13,425	12,135
1996-97	12,240	12,112

(d) and (e) Coal supplies to power sector in the country including power houses of Gujarat Electricity Board is accorded highest priority. Supply of coal to power sector is monitored regularly by an Inter-Ministerial Group. Appropriate corrective action is taken to step up coal supplies wherever necessary.

The outstanding dues from GEB had mounted and they had not made arrangements to clear even the undisputed dues. As a result, linkages for GEB power houses were restricted to the extent of payments. GEB has been requested to make timely payments so that the supplies are not required to be regulated on account of non payment for coal supplied to them.